FROM WASHINGTON.

Prem Car Own Correspondent.

WASHINGTON, June 5, 1861. In much that is old, and more that is new, h what we have learned of the past or have observed of the present, there is one marked and peculiar spectacle of which, in all time gone by. there have been but two resemblances. The cruending host gathered under one leading banner the enthusiasm, the piety, and self-devotion of all Europe. Fired by a passion which seemed but a higher form of frenzy, the barrier of national divisions, the jealousy of warring nations and the separation and confusion of dialects and languages, all yield to a zeal which, epidemic and contagious, brought the dissevered nationalities, in rudeness and refinement, under barbarran chieftain and crowned king to the rescue of the Holy Sepulcher from the hand of the Infidel. But this was but the free offering of service and life to a cause which came to the mind fervid in a religion which addressed the eye in the scenic pageantry of ritual, rather than the heart in the teachings of a pure faithand almost brutal in a ferocity as yet wanting for that slow education which, at a later period, was to adorn knighthood. The vassal followed bis leader, who dreamed of glory, earthly and immortal, and saw visions of conquest and empire in the Oriental possessions of a rival faith. which, hardly more earthy and sensual than the practices of his own, came from the broken cisterns fashioned by man, and not from the heavenly fountain from which flowed the oracles of

The centuries which followed, with their paroxysmal attacks of energy, stimulated by fanaticism. left Europe to fall into its distinct governments and fight in its ever-recurring wars, in separate armies, or in coalitions of limited extent, formed against a more powerful potentate.

In our time, under one commanding and controlling genius, binding to his destmy the power of all that had sway from the Bay of Biscay to the Balkan-each Monarch, Prince, and Duke marched to his rally the contingent of a Feudal Lord whose men-at-arms were of the gentle blood of royal and noble veins. This was not voluntary, but held to alliance, only by the strong hand and the stern will. Compulsion to the Puler and conscription to the soldier held to his behests the fearful might of contumacious nations whose population were made the spoilers of habitatious and the destroyers of human life. The world will not soon see such another magnificent procession as that mighty march which descended into the valley of the Niemen, gorgeous in all the panopy of war and gilded by a surshine which was soon to pass behind a cloud charged with the thunder and whirlwind of a doom, frightful and wonderful, as had been the footsteps which led to a catastrophe ending in the sublime of calamity.

With the close of that sepulcher of frost, famine and the slayer, into which they marched to die benumbed on the steppes of inhospitable provinces, to be butchered at Borodino, or buried in the icy flood of the Beresina, went out the last grand gathering of distant kindred and diverse language, till upon our shores in the free and uncompulsive proffer of life, we assemble again an army in which the sons of men who fought at Dresden and shouted "Vire UEmpercur" in the last fatal march upon St. Dizier. salute our unfurled flag, and mark time to the national air which salutes its raising.

With us now, for life and death, not invited but seeking the post of danger, is a mingling of tongues and races, more comprehensive in scope than even the campaign of disaster and death against the last contumacious resistant of universal empire, whose capital had not trembled to the stern footfall of the Old Guard of the Corsican Emperor. From the Shannon and from the from the Rhine and the Rhone, and more from the fiords of Norway and the firths of Scotland, come those who have sought freedom under our akt, and now stretch out the hand to help to rescue in alarm and danger. Our regiments bear names dear to Liberty, both of the living and of the dead. Yankee Doodle and the Marseillaise, the Ranz des Vaches and the Rhine Song, mingle their stirring refrains as the steady ranks beat with even step to the cadence of their bars.

It will be something, in the grander acts of This drama, to tell to our children-those of us who survive-of the holiday pomp which delighted our eyes in the mustering up of native born and foreign birth-the brogue and the burr-the guttural and the "soft bastard Latin" of Tuscan sweetness, as they defiled past in the march to repossess our own territory, held from our jurisdiction by rebellion, with the glow of pride on their foreheads and the glitter of sunshine upon their polished steel. Dreamer of evil omen. doubter of the Wisdom which is from on High. and holds nations in the bollow of His hand, see in this the sure and certain triumph, for the which the world is waiting, and for which it shall not wait in vain.

Emancipation has left the eastern shores of the Atlantic, where it has done its work; the step of its progress treads upon the paths of retiring oppression. Here, where the people first took power into their hands and founded a polity, which rested upon the equal and impartial participation of all, building an image of worchip-whose feet were part iron and part claythe firstlings of the heart shall now become the firstlings of the hand, to the true liberty which has been, heretofore, but a fiction and a false pretense.

Across the ocean, each people, in its distinct and distant action, has done its work. Here the gathered men of all of these divergent communi ties assemble under our grand and cohesive organization to win the last of fields in the long

Washington may stand with forces in front and flank and rear-Virginia fermenting in a hesitation which restrains, and Maryland festering in a treachery which holds to an external quiet with sedition infecting half the population, and waiting only the favoring circumstance and time to aid in overwhelming, by an intestine eruption, the citadel of authority-yet etill, with all these portents of evil, and with darkness upon the horizon, there is yet a spanning rainbow of promise which speaks peace to the future, and is the pledge of present safety in our peril. Upon the mountain tops are the sengers of glad tidings, and rapturous to our matient but longing cars are the promises of Bheir lips and the rushing of their wings. And now let me recur to a subject which can-

not be too strongly pressed on the action of the military authorities. It is the substitution of martial for civil jurise ict on. It is, to me, passing strange that, with a full knowledge of what is before and about them, they will continue to keep terms which may involve the greatest of all disasters. One half of this city is false to the Government, and is giving, in every way it can, aid and comfort to the enemy. I should take the protection of my revover and feel more safe with it than with the police force to defend ne in my extremity. I cannot write all that I know, and what the Administration must know, of that which is in their own Departments. Nor can I go to them and urge to the performance of a tardy act which, it seems, ordinary foresight would have suggested as an early necessity. But I can speak to the people, in whom there is the safety and deliverance from this long wardsring in the wilderness. To their influence upon the chosen ruler here is to come the conduct and settlement, in the small and great events of the movement, be the struggle long or short; and from them I claim an audience when I speak in their language of what is dear to them as hower, property, or life, and which they are to hold in their courage or basely surrender in their fear.

Cheating the Departments. Correspondence of The N. Y. Tribuse.

WASHINGTON, June 4, 1861. For years past a gigantic system of jobbery and orruption has been growing up in connection with the Adminstrative branches of the Government. The demoralization of our politics has been largely due to the corrupt practices which insinuating themselves for years into the political administration, found their desgrace ful calmination during the last year of Mr. Buchanan term of office. Our whole political system has been made to revolve about a few grand schemes of plunder

The institution of a Government Printing House bus we trust, forever put an end to the discusting exposure of frauds to which we had become accustomed in connection with the public printing. Hardly second to this, as a means of fraudulently taking money from the Treasury, and putting it in the pockets of political favorites, though not made to play so important a part in the direction of political movements- are the cotracts for furnishing stationery to the several Departments, and to the two Houses of Congress. The deto collusion and corruption is left wide open by the custom of issuing proposals for "Classes" embracing several "Items," instead of making each item a class by itself. The same system is followed in advertise ments of some of the bureaus of the Army and Navy, and wherever proposals are issued in this form, it may be taken for granted that bids made in good faith will not be successful. bowever reasonable in themselver, and advantageous to the Government.

Take, for example, the proposals of the Treasury Department for the last year for stationery. "Class No. 1, Paper," embraces 18 " items," the first five of

No. 1, Paper," embraces 18 "items," the first five of which are as follows:

Item 1, 100 results folio-post, satin finish, faint-lined and trimmed, of the very best quality.

2, 180 results white cap paper, satin finish, faint-lined and trimmed, of the very best quality.

3, 20 results white cap paper, machine-made, faint-lined and trimmed, of the very best quality.

4 for results out paper, thise laid, hand-made, faint-lined, garden-patern, commonly known as dispatch or consular paper, of the very best quality.

5, 500 results quarter post, white, highly glozed, and hard-calendered faint-lined on three sides, and of the very best quickly.

6, 100 results quarter post, machine-made, white, plain, faint-lined on three sides, of the best quality.

Now, it is to be remembered that in all such pro-

Now, it is to be remembered that in all such pro-

posals the contract is assigned to the bidder making the west bid. Let us see how it works in the case of the above.

The honest bidder sits down and makes up his bid, on the basis of a profit of 10 or 15 per cent, as the case may be, upon all the articles called for, and in the the amounts specified in this class. But the bidder who has been posted in advance by some friend in the Department, knows that, in fact, not more than two or three reams, perhaps none at all, of the kind of paper described under item I will be used, and he bids this at 50 cents per ream, when its market value is, say \$5. This makes his bid for that item only \$50. Of

the second " item." 150 reams, satin finish, none will be called for, and he proposes for this at, we will say \$1 per ream, and for this " item " his bid is \$150. Bu of the kind described in the third item only twenty reams are called for. This item reads the same as item 2, except that, instead of satin finish, the words machine-made are substituted. Every one knows that there is no paper to be had in this country except machine-made, and the third item is thus identical with the second. This paper, described under the third item, and of which only twenty reams is called for, is really the kind that will be used in large quantities, and or this the bidder, who is in collusion with the Stationery Clerk or some other officer of the Department, bids

six, seven, or eight dollars per ream. Item 4. calls for hand made paper, an article, as remarked above, of which there is none in the market. nor has there been for years. The dishonest bidder puts in for this again at a merely nominal rate, and then furnishes the article described, except that it is machine-made, when called for, at his own price, inasmuch as hand-made paper was contemplated in his bid, and of course, for articles outside of the contract, he may charge such price as he pleases, with no limit but his own rapacity, or the extent of the guilty ocuplicity of the parties in the Department acting with him. In items 5 and 6, there is the same ruse as in items 2 and 3, the paper of which none will be used being called for in large quantity, while the following item, which describes the paper really used, is called for only in small quantity. It is the same all through this " class," one item being made to act as cover for the fraud practiced in relation to another.

Now let us see how the bids on the items considered will foot up, on the part of the honest bilder, and the one acting in collusion with the Department, respect-

And so on. The bidder, acting in good faith, on the contrary, bids, we will say, as follows:

This is no mere suppositious case. A bidder for one of these contracts put in, a short time since, a bid aggregating between \$1,000 and \$5,000; but a con petitor, whose aggregate bid was something less than \$2,000, received the contract. The following year, the party first named put in a bid for the same list, which amounted in the aggregate to only \$1,400, while his successful competitor of the year before, supposing that he had killed off all opposition, and de

termined to make a still larger haul opon the Treasury, put in a bid amounting to some \$4,000. The former of ourse received the contract this time, and made on it

This is a sample of the operations by which the Treasury has been depleted during the rule of the Democratic party. This system of jobbery is not confined to the class of contracts now under consideration, but extends into every Bureau, almost, from which contracts are given. An illustration of this occurred some time since in connection with the Navy-Yard at Norfolk. Proposals were issued by the Eureau o Yards and Docks for the supplies of bolts, screws, etc., for that yard, and among the items was "100 tons of railroad iron." One bidder put in for this at \$5 per tun, when the article in question was worth \$80 per un. Of course he got the contract. It happened, however, that 10 tuns of railroad iron was actually required toward the close of the year, and a requisition for it was made on this contractor. By the terms of the proposals a contractor failing to supply any article

ply, and left the commandant to supply himself at the usual rates elsewhere. The contractor cleared \$10,000

by this contract. In many cases the terms in the Proposals which seem to guard the public interest are only cunningly-devised

evasions made for the benefit of favored contractors. But how are these abuses to be remedied? By is uing proposa's, in all instances, making each item a separate class, and requiring bids to be put in for each separately. This has been the course pursued by that honest officer, Asbury Dickens, Secretary of the Senate for years past, and this year for the first time the same course has been pursued by Col. Forney in his Proposals for the supply of the immense contracts for

the House stationery.

The general adoption of this plan throughout the Departments would save inca/culable sums to the Nation, and should be insisted on at a time like this, of all others. Let there be no hasty, inconsiderate action. but a thorough overhanting on the part of every head of Department, and let the fraud and corruption which has instituated itself into every branch of the Administration be ended, and instead the different Departments administered in good faith, and economically.

AMERICAN AFFAIRS IN FRANCE. From Our Own Correspondent.

PARIS, 24th May, 1861. While I was writing to you a week ago to-day, there was a meeting of Americans going on in Mr. Sanford's parlor. It was a patriotic gunmeeting. The Rev. Mr. McClintock and another said a few words, and then the subscription began; in twenty minutes about 20,000 france were subscribed. The largest subscriptions, perhaps, were those of our three American painters here, Cranch, Dana, and May, who each set themselves down for a 500 frare picture. Mr. Sanford, our Minister to Belgium, Lays out he first year's salary in artillery-a very apt discharge of his duty as a Danbury man. Mr. Swain, of Philadelphia, has also, I am told, bought a gun or two, as the best panacea for our intestinal troubles. The informal improved meeting of last Friday was noticed in a brief news paragraph of next day's Galignani; whereupon e me Southern Slaveholders have chosen to take offense at any mention of such a meeting at ail, and had the presumtion to insist on a scurrillous and libelous recrimination being inserted in that strictly neutral newspaper." The recriminstion, thus qualified by "Father Pront," in his Paris correspondence with The London Globe, was refused insertion by Galignani, but got to print, in translation, in Le Pays, the organ of the Slave Power. It is signed De Leon, late Consul of the United States in Egypt. The late Consul in the Land of Egypt his recrimination is more foolish than scurrilous-not but what it is scurrilous. He declares such meetings as that in Mr. Sanford's parlor, to be in bad taste, not to say egal as held in disregard of the neutral position of France; but De Leon tells that quite small portion of world that reads Le Pays, the South Americans would held just such a meeting to buy guns here, i they were not all gone or going home [by v New-York?] to use guns [the guns that were ing gotten" and "protected"—the South Carolinian and Georgian patois for stolen—a few months ago.]

This unique French Pro-Slavery organ, Le Paus, emulates any of our home Southern papers as a nursery for the progeny of the Papa of Falschoods. It is Founding Hospital, Intant-School, and Insane Retreat, all in one. Since it is sold or hired out at Senator Benjamin's suggestion to the Southern interest, it has, with its new master, got a new man, one Girard, who bests poor Monsieur Paul Requet du Bellet all hollow. Faul, to be sure, was not of the solidest, nor even in the slightest danger of going mad with too much learning. But Paul was lonest, and his wish to become the C. S. A.'s Minister to the French Court an excusable weakness. It is not worth the while to lumber you with long extracts from M. Girard's articles; this exemplary tid-bit from his last, written after re-ceipt of American news to May 7, will suffice; "The warlike zeal of the New-England Abolition-"tats is subsiding. The treatment their soldiers "met with at Baltimore has contributed to this "result." Le Pays steadily ignores, as a part of the loyal United States, the fittle district lying west of the Hudson. Such is the only Southern organ in France. If its Southern employers give anything better than Mississippi bonds for its music, they pay their piper dear.

Mr. Seward's letter to Mr. Dayton is the theme of general comment here, as well as in England. It puts us in right position—recovers, in a sort, with European Governments and peoples the position that our Government seemed to them a month ago to be losing, not to say voluntarily relinquish ing. But the brave words of this letter must be acted up to, and that speedily, or they will pass for mere words of American stump merely with the mass, but with the rulers of Europe. Their sympathies are with our principles, but their opinions and practical action are, and Their sympathies are with our principles must be, shaped on facts. As a Power among the Great Powers, as a Government, the United States had sunk lamentably within the past six months in European estimation. If the accidental and consti-tutional embarrassments and checks that hampered our President's vigorous action were almost los sight of for a moment by your New-Yorkers, how can it be expected that foreigners are to make due allowance for them ! They do not, cannot, must not be asked to understand the theory of our Constitution. Within a fortnight I have heard my-self one of the first of living English statesmen, the first perhaps of advanced liberal English statesmen, Mr. Richard Cobden, who knows something of our country by reading and by personal observation as a traveler there, whose sympathies are all with the North, talk about the actual political "situation" of America in terms which a of the years old would be, and properly, spanked for uttering—not in the Boston boy's case be-cause of their incirism, but because of the igno-rance of our Constitution that they betrayed, in excusable even at his tender age. It is no offense of the laws or social intercourse—the least pardonable of all offenses not punished by the tribunals of openly everywhere without reference or care for involuntary bystanders' cars, with the sincerity of a doctrinaire, and in the innocence of ignorance, such questions as these: "What is the Govern-"ment of the United States fighting for! Why did not your President recognize at the outset the independence of the seceding States.'

No; explanations of the theory and lawful practice nation's constitution; the ablest and soundest possible of published instructions to foreign residen simisters; are natable argument and proof on the ethical side, won't practically do now. The United States flag floating tree at Trarper's Ferry, Gosport The United Navy-Yard, and Richmond will do, and alone will do. The world and its rulers, John Smith and Lord John Russell, Louis Durand or Jacques Bonbon,me and Louis Napoleon, will, do, and must judge from

facts, and act accordingly.

Louis Napoleon long ago, like a sensible man as he is, sent M. Barrot and other "shrewd observers" to the United States. Their reports will weigh quite as much with him as any representations of our Minister near his Court. Be sure of that. They will report facts. His Majesty is in no hurry to acknowledge the C. S. A. as a new-born nation. He has not gone, opensy, quite as far as England in this direction; it depends upon us that he speedily does not go as far. It Jeff. Davis's concern, C. S. A. & Co., can keep its sign up six months longer, if it has next November a single port whence it can send under its own fing a pound of cotton, or where it can receive, under any flag, a pound of powder, the firm will be practically recognized as doing living business by the European establishments Be sure of this. History is the guaranty of my

A word about a personal matter here. It has TRIBUNE and other American called for is liable in half the amount of the article called for, at the price mentioned in his bid. The contractor accordingly paid \$50 forfeit for failing to sup-

think that your "positive informant" was mistaken in this matter. That Mr. Faulkner lamentably failed here, as others at home with less excuse from local "habitude" failed, in comprehension of his whole duty of United States Ministerial man, is saily true. But, that he voluntarily wrote himself down in M. Thouvenel's books such an utter ass, let alone such a villainous traitor, as to introduce to him or to the Emperor the official representatives of an organization against whose recognition he was at that very time protesting-this is hard to believe, even of a Virginian abstractionist. If he did this thing, he not only abstracted all meaning from his acts as United States Minister, but abstracted all truth from his frequently spoken unefficial opinions and statements of facts. I do not personally know Mr. Faulkner. I do know that, in answer to direct questions, on his return from a trip to England a month or so ago, he said that he had not met the Southern Commissioners there. Mr. Floyd was a Virginian abstractionist of some millions of dollars and numberless fire-arms from the national treasury and arsenals. I am not ready to believe, in lack of positive proof, that Mr. Faulkner, whom decent men took by the hand not a week ago, belongs to

that ab-and-substracting school. Let us be just.

And now a word about guns. The subscription of the few Americans still left in Paris has risen to something over 20,000 francs. The purpose of it is the purchase of some Whitworth guns that are for sale in Manchester, England. It will not pay for many; and three or four of this sort may find a place in our harbor defense, or wherever else a bi reaching, hard-striking breaching ball would do good service, and can have attendant mechanics to segun. But as a general rule, money spent in Whitworth or any breech-loading guns, is misspent. Despite excessive puffing in The London Times newspaper, and after a long and thorough course of practical experiments, the Whitworth gun has not seen accepted by the English Government itself. The special objections to it, and the general objections to the Armstrong and all breech-loading, are many and conclusive. Note that France, not only the most warlike but the most practically and scientifically warlike of all Europe nations will have no breech-teading guns in the field; that the Armstrong (English) gun, although it did good dervice against the Chinese, needed nearly as large an accompaniment of mechanicians to keep it in or-der as of artillerymen to serve it; that in the last great practical test of artillery—the Italian war, and especially the battle of Solierino—the improved Na-poleon rifled gun gave death-dealing, triumphant proof of its practical superiority over all other field artillery. On this terrible material, as on the philosophico-political side, we are past theorizing, and come to facts. The cheapest, lightest, most easily worked, least liable to any sort of accident, experimentally proved cannon is the best.

And about buying arms of any sort in Europe refuse, rejected firearms there is still a limited supply here, probably, notwithstanding the large quantities that have been sold of late to Italy and there is reason to suspect) to the agents of the Southern States. Of first-class, Intest-improved firearms, whether for shoulder or wheel carriage, the purchasable stock on the Continent of Europe is Of first-class, latest-improved quite limited. Remember that all Europe is arming itself, for the past twelvementh and more arming itself, with the latest-improved death-dealing instruments of every caliber. that could be bought two years ago for fifty-five francs are now demanded at eighty francs, and cannot be had at that price until after a year's orders are filled. Such I directly, personally know to have been the answer made within a week to American applicants by at least three large manufacturers in France and Belgium. Beside the demands of the home Governments in these countries, fabricants have extensive orders to fill from Sweden, Italy, &c. No; in this matter, as in the rest, we must look to ourselves. Press the home manufacture. Instead of wasting time and money in negotiations with European fabricants, give the stimulating be-nus to mechanics at home. With wages enough— and it is economy to pay high—all fine workers in metals, all the hardy sons of Tubal Cain, whose occupation of serving the call of luxury is now gone, and who have not enlisted in marching regimentscan and will become gun-makers. With a will, the New-Haven or any other rifle-making company can double its machinery, shop-rooms, productive men, and product of shooting-irons. And this product of and product of shooting the subjected on the spot to experimental test of its worth. We must look to ourselves, and work out our own salvation now, without regard to any little money trib-ulation. We must, and in this way only can, make Europe see, what has just become gloriously patent to ourselves, that our national bird is not the mere greedy, grasping, offal-eating turkey-buzzard that it has seemed of late years, but an imperial eagle, with its own thunder in its talons.

Europeans do not yet quite understand that our

Government is a constitutional one; that Mr. Lin coln is our President, not our King, Kniser, Czar Dictator. European statesmen perhaps understand this less than the popular mass, certainly less than some culightened European individuals like French Count Gasparin, the editorial writers in the English Daily Neces, the Parisian Opinion Nationale, and others. The members of the actual English Cabinet, the authors of the Queen's late proclamation of neutrality," have not understood this. Probability threatens that they will before long come to unde stand that their proclamation was a bungle; that it was a costly sacrifice to cotton-king. It is stated and believed that there are now in Liverpool and in other English ports vessels only waiting the arrival, per English mail steamer, of Jeff. Davis's letters of marque to go out as sea highwaymen, seeking whom they may devour. Englishmen are getting scared at the threatening probability that these Palmetto corsairs will not be nice about flag distinctions, and that any easy prey will be welcome, without regard to the color of its bunting. They are getting to see with horror-strained eyes that an English vessel, sailing from an English port, with an English or mixed crew, and chartered by Jeff. Davis, is not likely to count many constitutional lawyers, or equity judges, or nice patriots, among its boarding-men—that whatever rich-loaded, defenseless ship falls in its way may have its crew, passengers, and hulk put out of the way, below deep-sea soundings, and no questions asked or answerable. Dead men tell no tales. Dead English merchantmen's men are as silent as dead New-England consters. English folks engaged in the shipping interest are getting alarmed about this royal neutrality. They are getting to think that mild pains and penalties and her "Majesty's displeasure," will not be ap preciated by the "roughs" of Liverpool sailor boarding-houses. Probably not. Venerable and to be venerated old Lord Brougham, smothering his life-long convictions in Manchester cotton, substantially declared in the House of Lords, the other day, that he hoped his tellow-citizens in Great Britain would put their soul's faith in allegiance, as he did his, and that it would be highly indecorous on Mr. Lincoln's part to bang Jeff. Davis's pirates to the yard-arm. I should not be surprised if, before six months are over, the canny old Scotchman changed his tune, and cried, with Didsbury, "Sursam corda; run up the cord!" The English papers, those of Liverpool included will reach you as soon as this, and from them you will-judge whether I exaggerate the chances of he conversion of Lord Brougham and of other noble

European affairs naturally lose much of their interest to you at present. But as Europe persists in existing and having its affairs all the same, a brief word is due to them. It is now absolute and past doubt that the French troops in Syria will be past doubt that the French troops in Sylvian all on shipboard by the 5th of June. This closes France's engagement as agent for the five European Powers in protecting the Christian populations of that unhappy country; at the same time throws the that unhappy country; at the same tim responsibility of their safety upon England and Turkey, and releases France, in case of another call for intervention, from all embarrassing engagements with Eugland, Turkey, and Austria. By pushing matters to this conclusion, England has assumed a fearful responsibility; it guarantees the efficiency and humanity of Turkey-the weakest, corruptest, rottenest Government on earth. England was vexed that France should remain the protector of the Syrian Christians; she is vexed at her manner of conditionally renouncing that protectorship. In all this matter, England has had in view, disregardful of every question of right and humanity, a politi-cal purpose based on a real or supposed materia cal purpose

of Europe neutral. Not a very strong position that! The Turkey sick man was never worse than he is to-day! Hatti what-d'ye-call-'ums, and Palmerston's swaggering laudation of his reforms, and poor bankrupt banker Mirès his stockjobbing puffs to the

contrary notwithstanding.

No better off than the priest Sultan at Stamboul is the Poutiff king at Rome. As I said more than a year ago, it will be a good time to talk about the French garrison leaving Rome when it leaves. Setting aside as of no particular weight in a reasonable man's judgment, the late daily crowding rethe historical future remains clearer than the stead ily, fatally approaching fact of its departure. When to be finally accomplished, I cannot tell better than another, but certainly to be accomplished, is now past doubt; and the approach toward accomplishment may be said much more than six months of chronological advancement in the last six months. After Rome comes Venice-long after, probably, but certainly, and to judge from present appearances,

All Southern Italy is still a long way from patriotic unification with Northern Italy, but a much longer way from Neapolitan Bourbonism and insane Muratism. Poor muddle-headed, over-grown Prince Murat in the shape of letters to unknown Neapoli-tan nobles, and in his little speech and silly vote in the French Senate a month or two ago, set himself forward and up as a pretender to the Neapolitan Throne, Now, Murat was Grand Master of all Throne, Now, Murat was Grand Master of all French Free Masons, whose wont it has been for many years to choose as their chief a member of the reigning family. Hearing Murat's foolish pretensions to the Neapolitan Throne offended many o them. This sense of offense was expressed in a Masonic journal, which, thereupon, Grand-Master Murat rather arbitrarily suspended. A new election for Grand-Master came on last week. Prince Napoleon was proposed as a candidate. At first P. N. declined, on the ground that he could not oppose his friend and relative, P. M. Meantime, P. M. and P. N. fell into such conflict of opinions that a duel between them was arranged by seconds, and put a stop to-by high Imperial command say some; by the peculiar views of Prince Napoleon in respect of physical exposure of the person, say others. Be that as it may the Prince Napoleon did not use this opportunity to obtain the reputation, which circumstances have steadily throughout his life prevented his acquiring, of a physically brave man; but the Prince Napoleon did, all the same, obtain the majority of votes, and is to-day, for want of a better, and in way of protest against the political absurdities of Murat, Grand-Master of all

French Free Masons.

More astonishment and a louder guffaw, as well as a finer universal smile of mockery, were raised in Paris and in all literary France and Europe, a week ago, by the choice of M. Thiers by his fellow. members of the French Academy, as most deserv-ing of all living French writers of the Imperial prize of 20,000 francs decreed to be biennially allotted to the author of the work "most creditable to the buman mind"-("le plus honore l'esprit humain.") To understand the depth of the French guffaw and the extent of the mocking sneers, a word of explanation is necessary. This 20,000 francs prize is of the Emperor's giving. It is biennial. Each of the five Academies composing the French Institute is, in turn, to designate the most deserving candidate for the prize. The patent meaning of this arrangement is that the specially hterary Academy should propose a laureate peculiarly mentorious, on purely literary grounds—the Academy of Moral and Politi-cal Sciences, a candidate peculiarly deserving in its speciality, and so on through the five Academies, representing in all every possible department of netion that "honors the human intelligence." No definite statute could have made more plain than the naturally implied convenances made it, that the the naturally implied contenances made it, that the nominating Academy would not, could not, must not, propose one of its own members for the prize. The choice of a nominee this year belonged to the Academic Française, the literary Academy par excellence. The proposed candidates were Geo. Sand, Henri Martin, and Jules Simon. Of th George three, the two who presented the strongest claims to the Academy were George Sand, the novelist, and Henri Martin, the historian. Of these two, the literary claims of Madame George Sand are undoubtedly the first and highest. But votes were about equally divided among the three. Personal, political, and "doctrinaire" prejudices had much greater weight with the gravest of the Academicians than interests and honor of French literature, which they are specially constituted to foster and protect. Unable, after several meetings and much speech-making by the advocates of the different candidates. to come to a decisive vote on any of them, they all of a sudden voted one of their own members, nsieur Thiers, to be the author of the work mos ereditable to the human intellect, to wit, of the 18 volume chronicle of the Consulate and the Empire—a clear, alarmingly voluminous, easily reada-ble, often erroneous in statement, and supereminently unphilosophical, and (so far as style Freuch, above all, in the French Academical, sense of the word goes) ill-written, one-sided, popular Française, fortunately for French literature, is preoccupied with political and party purposes as to fast ruining itself as an authoritative literary tribunal. One of its first and greatest members Guizot-Protestant Guizot-would to-day vote any literary crown to Veuillot or the Pope sooner than

to Victor Hugo.

But let us look to ourselves. Plant, plant, plant! English crops will be short, French crops have been seriously injured, and save, save, save! It was a sound, wise, patriotic, and politico-economic cry, uttered the other day by THE TRIBUNE to the numberless households where it is a daily or weekly wel-come guest, for the "womankind," who stay at home in this war-time, to plant, if but one hill of corn. Save now, every grain of corn. One needs to have seen and studied the forced wise economy of these European folk, to appreciate and regret the fearful aggregate of our American wastefulness of God's good gifts. I think I take no risk, when I venture to say that all the vegetable nutriment in grains and greens of French Brittany was less this past year than what our Western tarmers and Eastern housewives, spendthrifts of their field and garden yield, wasted and let waste. If, in addition to the "hill of corn," every reader of THE TRIBUNE will apply a little French economy to saving every spoonful of meal, she will double her easy contribution to the essentially "Patriotic Fund" of the country.

FROM FORTRESS MONROE.

A Day and Night of Alarms and Adventures -Gen. Butler's Plans-The Treeps-Arrival of Gen. Pierce-Expedition-A Court-Martial. From Our Special Correspondent.

FORTRESS MONROE, OLD POINT, June 4, 1861. After I had posted my letter yesterday, we had a batch of rumors and some excitement. About 4 o'clock word was brought in from Camp Butler that one hundred and twenty men, belonging to Col. Allen's regiment, who had gone out a distance of some four or five miles toward Yorktown, had been surprised by a rebel force of five hundred men, and taken prisoners Gen. Butler immediately repaired to the Camp, and ordered a detachment from Col. Duryce's regiment of Zouaves to go in pursuit, and they set out at once. It subsequently appeared that the report was without foundation. In the evening word was brought that five hundred Rebel troops, with ten pieces of artillery, were at the Bethel Church, between eight and ten miles from Hampton, and not far from the Half-Way House. Another report placed them at another church on Back River. Gen. Butler resolved to send a force in that direction, consequently about five hus dred men, commanded by Capt. Haggerty of Gen. Butler's staff, and ten 21-pound Howitzers set out. They scoured the country as far as Back River, a distance of about ten miles, but found no enemy-no sign of one. The expedition returned about noon to-day. It is probable that between Old Point and Yorktown there are some fifteen hundred or two thousand Rebels, in nomadic bands, indifferently armed. On the approach of the scouts they retire, and burn the bridges, with such other exploits as the F. F. V.'s are capable of, when

disguised as guerillas. At Yorktown, there are probably, of all sorts, some 2,500 or 3,000 men, most of whom are poorly armed. All the negroes who have not run, and many of the

white men, have been pressed into the service of the insurgents at that point. The provisions of the country have been accoped up for them to live on, and it will not be long before the supply will give out. Everybody's property which the Rebels can make useful to their purposes has been seized-otherwise stolen.

I am assured by intelligent Union men who have es caped from their clutches that at least one-half of the population of the region of country below Yorktown are for the Union, and would hail our army with joy. I have to-day made an excu-sion to a section of coun-

try not far from Hampton, where there are a number of Union families, now enjoying the protection of our troops. They confirm all the reports I have heretofore given concerning the condition of the country between Hampton and Yorktown. They are all sufferersmany of them having lost their all at the hands of the insurgents. Several men have been compelled to flee, and leave their wives and children, as well as their property, behind to the tender mercies of the Rebels. They implore Gen. Butler to make an advance at the earliest possible moment. The General is not unmind4 ful of them; but will redress their wrongs just as soon as is consistent with his plans. As to those plans, they will be unfolded at no very distant day, when it will be found that every movement has had a relation to the ultimate result, which is constantly held in view. Gen. Butler is a man of action. Not a day will be thrown away, but every day and hour will contribute to the execution of a scheme which has been formed with deliberation, and wi h what skill you may conjecture, when I state that it has the warm approval of Lieut.-Gen. Scott.

The forces here are gaining in efficiency, discipline and soldierly qualities, and when the time arrives for striking the blow, they will be foundequal to the work. B. igadier-Gen. Pierce arrived here yesterday, and has established his headquarters at the Seminary new Hampton. His staff is compased of Captain S. P. Richmond, Capt. W. C. Lovering, Capt. A. P. Chamberling. Gen. Pierce will relieve Col. Duryee as the

officer in command at Camp Butler.

A detachment of twenty men of the Cambridge Company, out of Col. Woodrop's 3d Messachusetta Regt. embarked on a steamer last evening for Havre Grace, on a special duty. The nature of it will be learned before this gets into print. The Yankee, when about to be dispatched on a special service last night, got aground, and did not get off till to-day. It turned out, however, that the circumstance did not mar and general or particular plan of action.

A court-martial will commence to-morrow to tr soldiers charged with plundering citizens at Newport's News. Gen. Butler does not intend that acts of vio lence or lawiessness shall escape punishment, as the result will show.

Negroes, in search of information, continue to strag gle into our camps and the fortress. All such take the appellation of Virginia Volunteers. The idea pleases them wonderfully. "Massa run away first, and di child had to look out for his self," say they. And such

is the fact in most cases.

The Contraconicos sailed last night with between 200 and 300 of the Naval Brigade. The others remain to await developments. They drift with a rugge current.

In consequence of the alarms and expeditions yesterday, the discipline in the camps to day is very strict No man, either here or at Newport's News, will here after be allowed to go outside of the lines without per mission or unless he is sent out on special duty. The insurgents who infest the country between this and Yorktown will, one of these days, be "gobbled up" is a manner little to their tiking.

FROM MARYLAND.

Re-assembling of the Rebel Legisla: re-Transit of the Highlanders and Maineites Capt. McConneil's Regiment - Marshal Bonnifant's Revelutions-Necessity of Supersedi ing the City Police-Election Prospects.

From Our Special Correspondent. BALTIMORE, JUNE 4, 1861.

The rebel Legislature of Maryland are to meet a Frederick City to-ay, as per adjournment, for the pur-pose of embarrassing the Federal Government in its war against the Jeff. Davis gang of traitors. It is an illegal body, and should be just as promptly suppressed by the President as he would a regiment of rebels is arms. It will find a Federal force in the occupancy of Frederick, to look after its treason. But this is not all. It will doubtless go to work to pass law injurious to the interests of the State, and Gov. Hicks if he had the courage of a mouse, would scatter it t the winds of heaven, and the masses would sustain him in so holy a work. I trust that this hot-bed traitors will not be a lowed to mock both heaven an earth with its blasphemous treason, but that it wil be summarily dealt with by the strong arm of the military power. Loyalty should be as prompt in doin ight as treason in carrying out its iniquitous pur poses.

A refreshing shower of rain welcomed the debarking of the Highlanders on Broadway, where the Philade phia cars cross it, last evening about 7; o'clock Their reception by the inhabitants, though the shade of night had fallen, was almost an ovation all along the line of march, which was up Broadway, and through Baltimore and Howard streets, to Camden depot. The only exception was at the office of that organ of treason and rebellion, The Sun newspaper, in front of which a gang of Secessionists undertook to salute the gallant Scotts with groans, but they were drowned in the shouts of loyal people, who to-day cannot find words extravagant enough to express their admiration these poble defenders of our Constitution and Union They got off to Washington about 10 o'clock. In the morning the 2d Maireites went through with a fine brand. I had almost forgotten to say, that the Scote airs played by the Highlanders' band, set the spects tors, at several points, to dancing with joy.

THE TRIBUNE's suggestion to the Unionists of Balts more to raise a regiment of reliable men for the war, if no more, has been anticipated. Captain McConnel has done so, and I am glad to inform you that he was yesterday in rusted with its command, pro tempore. He is our Frank Blair in more respects than one, though of humble origin, and if the wishes of his regiment, which have unanimously elected him their colonel, shall finally be respected by the appointing power, my word for it, he will give se good an account of his reg ment as any other colonel in the service who is not West Pointer. There is not an unprejudiced Unionist in the city who will not bail Captain McConnell's appointment to the colonelcy of this regiment as an act of justice to a brave, loyal, and energetic officer, who bas served his country faithfully on the battle fields of Mexico. Let him have a chance, and he will prove himself a Gen. Lyon in his intercourse with the traitor

Marshal Bonnifant, according to THE TRIBUNE'S Washington correspondent, has been revealing hendquarters the true state of things here. I desire to thank the Marshal for his faithful representations of matters in our midst. It is all as Le says it is, and this correspondence will bear witness to, for it has developed the same facts which te has made known officially; and yet the traitorous newspape; press of our city, with one exception—The Clipper—has been denouncing them as slanders. Let the President confor the authority naked for by the Marshal and give him the aid required, and treason and traitors wi speedily skulk out of the light of day. But I would prefer to see them dealt with by Gen. Cadwalader, from whose power there would and ought to be no appeal.

THE TRIBUNE asks what sort of an election we shall have in Baltimore—if the Union men are defended in their right of suffrage by the Federal army? I would, in reply, inquire what sort of an election will there be on the 13th inst., if the Union men are to be left to the mercies of a Secession police? What loyal men in Baltimore want is the suppression of the present Board of Police by the military authority of the Government, because it is in rebellion against that authority*, and the appointment in their places by the commander-in-chief of good and true loyalists who shall take care